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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: GM PHUM

SUBJECT: GERMANY LIFTS ENTRY BAN ON REVEREND MOON

¶1. (SBU) According to Dr. Dieter Romann, Director of the German Interior Ministry's Office of Border Security Issues, the "hit" in the German consular and border control system calling for Reverend Sun Myung Moon's visa denial has been removed. Dr. Romann issued a statement to Embassy Berlin, the translation of which follows:

¶2. (SBU) "After the ruling of the Rhineland-Palatinate Higher Administrative Court, the "hit" (which called for visa denial) under Article 96 Paragraph 2 of the SDU was deleted by the Federal Police Authority in Koblenz on June 4, 2007. Through this action, the obligation of other Schengen partner states to apply this hit has been lifted as well. Fundamentally, the granting of an entry visa is a discretionary decision. Therefore, as with any other travelers, any actual application for entry submitted by Mr. and Mrs. Moon would be processed through the normal police border control procedures and a decision regarding entry would then be made."

¶3. (U) This action was taken in order to comply with a May 2007 ruling by the Higher Administrative Court of Koblenz and an October 2006 ruling by the Federal Constitutional Court.
KOENIG